## Service to celebrate One World Week with a theme of

## GOOD NEIGHBOURS

## My World Depends on Us

## with a focus on Fairtrade.

**Hymns**…all from ‘Singing the Faith’ (STF)

701 - *Heaven shall not wait* - J AND P section.

702 - *I will speak out -* J AND P section.

713 - *Show me how to stand for justice* - J AND P section.

249 - *Jesu, Jesu* - ministry section.

**Preparation**

**Music** can be played and songs sung by music groups in churches before worship starts. For example from the hymns chosen by the Fairtrade group but not used in the service i.e. from these hymns above.

**Quizzes** can be distributed before the service. (Please look for the Quiz in OWW resources in October)

**Call to worship**/introductory sentence:

## Welcome to our special service for One World Week with a theme of

## GOOD NEIGHBOURS

## My World Depends on Us

## with a focus on Fairtrade.

**Hymn** 706 - *Longing for life -* in ‘Singing the Faith’ STF.

**Meditation:** “*Just a moment”* (from Christian Concern for One World [CCOW])

You might want to accompany this with images **on PowerPoint (or pdf)** (see OWW resources in October).

It starts with a change

So outwardly insignificant

That no one would notice

Except the person

Behind you in the aisle.

Just a moment

When instead of seeing

Rows of labels

On a supermarket shelf

You imagine the people

Behind them,

Tilling the earth,

Sowing the seed,

Gathering the crops.

And you pause,

Wondering,

What their names are,

Where they live,

What difference it will make

If your hand picks up

This box instead of that,

Wondering: how do I

Love these neighbours?

Can I help change

This child`s long journey for water,

Her mother`s lack of healthcare,

The prospect her father faces

Of another year unable

To feed his family well?

Just a moment.

And the person behind you,

Her impatient baby

Squirming in the trolley,

May never realise

That in that brief hesitation,

A life hung in the balance.

**Hymn** 703 - *In an age of twisted values -* STF

**Ministry of the word**

Receiving God`s word -**Bible readings,** Amos 8: 4-7; Micah 6: 6, 8;

Matthew 22: 35-40; 1 John 3: 18.

Followed by **prayers from CCOW** based on the readings with a response: **Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God. Check rest**

Almighty God, we grieve that in Your world despite all the riches You have given us so freely, selfishness and greed so often rule our decisions in trade as in so many other areas of our lives. Forgive us our acceptance of unjust structures of trade and help us to **Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God**

Almighty God, lover of justice and kindness, You command all your children to love their neighbours and tell us that love must be shown in deeds and not just words. We thank you for Fair Trade – for the opportunity it gives us to declare our intention to live out love and justice in our daily life. May we continue steadfast in our support for all that makes trade fairer, seeking to **Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God**

Almighty God, who longs for all your children to live together in your peace, We thank you for the ways in which Fair Trade binds us together in this community as we seek to follow your commands, And for the ways it binds us together with brothers and sisters around the world. Strengthen the bonds of trust and affection between us, that together we may **Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God**

Almighty God, in whose Kingdom Justice and mercy, peace and righteousness meet. We pray for the transformation of the rules of our world. Transform and renew the hearts of all in authority That as they negotiate trade agreements They may seek to **Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God**

Loving and righteous Lord,

Grant us the prophets` vision and strength,

That hearing Your call,

We may speak out and work for justice and for love.

Through Jesus Christ. Amen

**Hymn** 251 - *Jesus is waiting* - STF

**Interview with speaker,** for e.g. with experience of Fairtrade.

**Some suggested Questions based on speaker’s experience.** (Ask the Speaker what questions s/he would like to be asked!)

How long have you been involved in Fairtrade and what or who got you involved to start with?

You have been to some countries to see how Fairtrade works on the ground…..can you tell us where you have been?

Which project or projects has had the most impact on you?

Does Fairtrade money actually go to where it`s intended?

What are the benefits of buying Fairtrade?

(\*Social premium for the community; \*Dignity not charity)

Isn`t Rainforest Alliance the same?

Also, some people would say they want to buy LOCAL rather than Fairtrade-what would you say to them.

When we were talking you mentioned the Big Nasty Five. Please can you tell us more!

What can we do here as individuals and churches to advance the cause of Fairtrade?

**Response**

**Hymn** 256 - *When I needed a neighbour.* Time to think of new verses and then sing them. Here are some examples:

*Poor pay for my produce, were you there*?

*When I needed a fair wage, ......*

*I was poor and mistreated, ....*

*Fairtrade is the answer, ....…*

*If you care for your neighbour,*

*Buy Fairtrade, buy Fairtrade*.

**A time of prayer** with prayers of intercession, petition and the Lord`s Prayer

**Intercession** from CCOW

Dear Lord, we ask your blessing on all who are involved with Fair Trade, lifting before you:

• producers as they grow their crops and craft their works. Bless them, we pray, in their endeavours and grant them wisdom and discernment as they make decisions about how to use the benefits of Fair Trade.

• people who transport Fair Trade goods to market. Grant, we pray, that they, too, may be fairly treated.

• those who import and retail Fair Trade goods. Grant them, we pray, a genuine commitment to fairer trade for all.

• all of us who shop where Fair Trade goods are for sale. Grant us an understanding of the impact of our choices. We ask all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen

Dear Lord, You call us to a neighbourly love

That is generous in practical ways,

That does not leave by the roadside

Those harmed by sin and greed

But goes out of its way

To bring healing.

Help us to see

How neighbours near and far

Are suffering, their resources stolen

By unjust people and systems.

And fill us, we pray, with your Spirit,

That we may be inspired

To go further each day in using our gifts

Of time and money and talent

Lovingly

In ways that redress injustice

And renew life.

Amen

**Lord`s Prayer**

**Dedication-offering**.

You might like to split the offering between OWW and a relevant organisation such as the Fairtrade Foundation or Traidcraft Exchange.

Traidcraft Exchange works with poor producers in East Africa and Asia helping them to trade their way out of poverty. Your gift will help Traidcraft Exchange to reach even more artisans and smallholder farmers and their families.

**Quiz answers!**

**Hymn** 693 - *Beauty for brokenness* - STF

**Dismissal -** blessing (adapted from a Christian Aid Prayer):

Let us leave this worship, knowing the richness of blessings through the love of God, the selfless giving of Christ and the bounty of the Holy Spirit in our lives so that we can take generous blessings to our neighbours in our local communities and send generous blessings to our partners in global situations so that they may all know peace.

**Amen.**

**One World Week is very grateful to**

**the Cheshire South Fairtrade Group**

**for compiling this service.**